21

Fin

Da(50) dept 9

M No 15240 d/50. II

FOR MYSORE STAT

Telegram: MUDUGAL

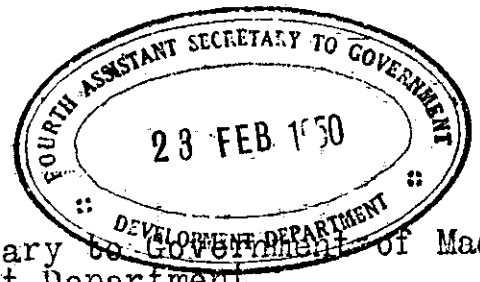
Registered with A.D.

Mudugal Bhimasenappa & Bros.,

Registered Stock-holders of Iron & Steel

Branches:
DAVANGERE
BELLARY

HARAPANAHALLI (Dist: Bellary)
Ry. Stn: Kottur (M. S. M. Ry.)



Ref. No.

Date 14. 2. 1950.

The Secretary to Government of Madras,
Development Department,
Fort St. George,
M a d r a s.

1522045
23/2/50

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Iron & Steel- Acquisition and disposal-delayed action by permit holders and consequent loss and hardship to Registered Stockholders.

We enclose herein copies of letters addressed to the Director of Controlled Commodities and seek your kind consideration and necessary orders so as to get the stockholders relief in their services to the trade and the country.

As stockists we have several difficulties in acquiring the materials and maintaining the stock. Large sums of money have to be invested before goods are despatched to us and great risks are taken up in preserving the stocks and distributing same as per orders of the permit-issuing authorities. It is no exaggeration that very often we do not get the quantity we pay for with the producers. For instance M/s. Tata Iron & Steel Co., Calcutta book the wagon loads and the R/R shows "said to contain". The goods have to transhipped in more than one place and when they finally reach our end the quantity received is not indentical with the quantity "said to have been despatched". Our representation to M/s. Tata Iron & Steel Co., and to the railways do not get us any satisfaction so far as the quantity is involved. The shortage is being put to our account.

Apart from this, the permit-holders indulge in unduly long delays in taking delivery of the materials, and add to our inconvenience and hardshop. The enclosed copies of letters will clearly show that the officers of the Agricultural Department have by their own default inflicted pain and penalty to the stockholder. Trade formalities are not known to them and they indulge in unnecessary correspondence and complicate the issues. A timely intervention and a clear study of the circumstances of the mode of acquisition and distribution of materials, will enable the your goodself to do something useful in the cause of the trade.

Cont'd-2....

Registered with A P

Telegram: MUDUGAL

Mudugal Bhimasenappa & Bros.,

Registered Stock-holders of Iron & Steel

Branches:
DAVANGERE
BELLARY

HARAPANAHALLI (Dist: Bellary)
Ry. Stn: Kottur (M. S. M. Ry.)

Ref. No.

Date 14. 2. 1950.

The Director of Controlled Commodities,
Mount Road,
M a d r a s.

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Iron & Steel- Reduction of price with ~~from~~ effect from 12.12.1949 ar Rs.30/- per ton- our letter dated 28.12.1949- losses enhanced due to careless and negligent action on the part of th Agricultural Officers.

Ref:- Permits for cart tyres No.24212 dated 14.11.'49 and No.24213 dated 14.11.1949 in favour of District Agricultural Officers.

In our letter dated 28.12.1949 we gave you particular of stock as held by us on 12.12.1949 and requested you to get us certain informations which we had not been able to get from youtill now. We were subsequently informed by the South India Iron & Hardware Merchants' Association, Madras that the matter had been taken up with the Iron & Steel Controller, Calcutta, and the Price Fixatio Committee and that their reply so far received shows that the loss due to reduction will not be refunded and that the stockholders should put up with the same.

It is also understood that this reduction of price is ordered in the same manner as an enhancement in price was ordered earlier. But we wish to point out that this is no plea against the drastic action of putting stockholders to hardship most surprisingly. As one who knows the stock position in the Province, you are a competitive authority to state whether the effect of increase earlier and the same from reductionof price now notified satisfy each other. Your goodself is solely responsible for issue of permits against stocks held in the Province and you please check up the statement that the increase in price earlier had the same effect as the reduction of price in December 1949.

Cont'd....

As stated in my previous letter my loss is Rs.2607/ L/O as the stock held on the day was 86 tons 17 Cwts 2 Qr 21 lbs. In this connection we beg to point out that about 50% of the stocks were actually covered by your permits in favour of the Joint Director of Agriculture who had also requested his District Agricultural Officer, Bellary in his letter dated 21.11.1949 to acquire the materials urgently. The latter in his memo to Agricultural Demonstrator Harpanahalli, dated 24.11.1949 had asked him to acquire and report before 30.11.1949. The permits were dated 14.11.1949 and our Proforma invoices were furnished on 20.11.1949.

There has been slackness on the part of the officers concerned as delivery of materials was delayed beyond the 12th of December 1949 resulting ultimately in a loss to us. It is quite incomprehensible why Government officers could not put to effective use until 12.12.1949 permits dated 14.11.1949 especially in view of an expediter from the head of the department.

The officers concerned might not have any previous knowledge of ~~xxxxxx~~ a cut in price on 12.12.1949 and might ~~xxxxx~~ not have intended to cause a loss to the stockists, but however it can not be denied that their procedure of acquisition is quite circuitous, slow, inefficient and inflicting hardship on the stockists directly or indirectly. We will like to know what steps your department will be taking in such instances where the stockholder is put to loss by sheer negligence on the part of the departmental officers who cannot appreciate the real difficulties of stockists.

It is well known to you that stockists pay for the stocks long before they are despatched from works, wait upon you for instructions of disposal and render services inaccordance with the rules and regulations of control. It is grossly unfair that stockists should be made to pay penalty for such good services

Also please note if such delay in taking delivery should be ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ on our default, the Government will be charging ground rent, watchman's charges etc on these goods. Again if instead of a reduction an increase in price should have occurred there would have been a big hue and cry from the consumers and we do not know in what way matters would get twisted. We request you to advise us suitably in the circumstances.

Yours faithfully,
for Mudugal Bhimasenappa & Bros.,

M. Venkoba Rao
20/2

Copy to :-

1. South India Iron & Hardware Merchants' Association, Madras
2. The Regional Dy. Iron & Steel Controller, Madras. for information.

Permit Nos 24212 & 24213
16-11-49 19-11-49

14.11.1949	Issue of permit.
17.11.1949	Duplicate received.
20.11.1949	Proforma Invoice
24.11.1949	Order from D.A.Officer to Demonstrator to acquire before 30.11.1949- advance denied.
29.11.1949	Letter from Mr. Demonstrator.
Do.	Payment demanded.
2.1.1950	Demonstrator on sales tax.
8.12.1949	Offered to supply cheque demanded.
15.12.1949	Delivery
6.1.1950	Agricultural Officer
17.1.1950	Director of Agriculture calling for revision of invoice.
7.2.1950	Payment received

Registered with A.D

Telegram: MUDUGAL

Mudugal Bhimasenappa & Bros.,

Registered Stock-holders of Iron & Steel

Branches:
DAVANGERE
BELLARY

HARAPANAHALLI (Dist: Bellary)
Ry. Stn: Kottur (M. S. M. Ry.)

Ref. No.

Date 14th February 1950.

The Chief Commercial Manager,
Madras & Southern Mahratta Railway,
Post Box No. 536,
M a d r a s. P.T.,

Dear Sir,

Sub: Iron & Steel -- Wagon loads from Tatanagar shortages at destination--compensation claimed.
Ref: Your No. F.F.22/519/49 dated 22/24-6-1949
F.D.16/4270/49 dated 24.9.1949.

We preferred two claims with you for shortages in deliery of wagon loads and vide above referred letters, you have stated that the claims are inadmissible and cannot be entertained. In the light of your state ent, we did not refer the other cases of shortages to you as we wanted to know how the senders viz. Messrs. Tata Iron & Steel Co., construe the situation. They have already given a statement of sho tages re o ted in their letter to G.M. Jamshedpur, copy enclosed herein and have finally to inform us that materials have been correctly loaded at the starting station. Please see copy of letter enclosed.

We request you to refer these cases in the transhipment stations and give us the benefit of your enquiry. It is quite likelythat, transhipment being necessary in wo places between Tatanagar and Kottur, a reference to the records maintained for the quantity received and transhipped in the respective stations will enable us to trace the shortage. Please arrange to do the needful in the matter so as to enable us prefer our claim with the right authority.

We, the re istered stockh lders are subject to regid provicions of Iron & Steel control and every inch of materials acquired has to be careful y accounted for, and we believe that the railways, being Government Railways, will appreciate the view and do their best to get us the relief sought at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,
FOR MUDUGAL BHIMASENAPPA & BROTHERS.
M. Veeresha Setty 20/2

P.T.O.

Registered with A.D

13

Telegram: MUDUGAL

Mudugal Bhimasenappa & Bros.,

Registered Stock-holders of Iron & Steel

Branches:
DAVANGERE
BELLARY

HARAPANAHALLI (Dist: Bellary)
Ry. Stn: Kottur (M. S. M. Ry.)

Ref. No.

Date 14th February 1950
20th

To
The Director of Controlled Commodities,
Mount Road,
M a d r a s.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Iron & Steel--Your allotment in favour of the District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool--Ignorance of trade formalities and negligence on the part of Permit Holder causing delay of receipt, demurrage and shortage to goods. non-payment of full dues to stockholder and several unwanted results in the transaction.
Ref: Your permit No.46254 dated 20.6.1949 for M.S.Squares 7/8" to District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool.

We beg to represent to you herebelow the circumstances in which supply against permit above referred to had been subject to very unusual and unpleasant results arising from carelessness and negligence on the part of the District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool and ignorance of trade practices on the part of the Agricultural Demonstrator, Pattikona, and request you to clarify the issue and recommend suitable revision of the Proceedings D.Dis.C.G.894/49 dated 11.1.1950 in the office of the Joint Director of Agriculture, Madras. We accept your permits and act in accordance with your standing orders and the instructions of the buyer; and in such circumstances as these, it is but meet that we should lay the case before you for a just and right manner of decision.

On receipt of the duplicate copy of the permit a proforma invoice for the materials was submitted on 25.6.1949 to the District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool and advance payment was requested. A letter dated 4.7.1949 was received from the Agricultural Demonstrator, Pattikonda, with copy to District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool, ordering us to despatch the materials vide said permit to Tuggli Railway Station and to forward the relative bills for cost, freight and handling to District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool. The permit was not signed. We asked for payment of the cost of goods and informed that R/R would be forwarded by V.P.P. for charges against forwarding and handling. Please refer our letter dated 8.7.1949 to the Agricultural Demonstrator. The permit had also to be returned for signature.

Cont'd-

12/

Copy to :-

1. M/s. Tata Iron & Steel Co., Calcutta.
2. Iron & Steel Controller, Calcutta.
3. Iron & Hardware Merchants' Association, Madras.

On 16.7.1949 the Agricultural Demonstrator, Pattikonda sent us a cheque for value of goods and also stated that transport charges could be claimed. This letter had been copied to the District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool by the Agricultural Demonstrator, Pattikonda.

In the light of the foregoing goods were despatched by rail on 23, 24 and 25 of July, 1949 as Road Goods and the relative R/Rs, duly endorsed, together with a bill for conti ncies, were sent by V.P.P to the District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool, Please see our letter 26.7.1949. The value payable for V.P.P was Rs. 92/8/- being handling and forwarding charges for goods.

Our intention was that the District Agricultural Officer, the permit holder, and the ri ht authority to pay up and receive the documents, would honour the V.P.P. without delay, and arrange for clearance at Tuggali R.S. as that was the only sequence in the light of the correspondence till then. Quite contrarily we received a telegram from the District Agricultural Officer, Kurnool on 4.8.'49 calling for particulars for the sum of Rs. 92/8/-

We immediately repled on the same day the particulars wanted. And the next day the District Agricultural Officer had asked the Agricultural Demonstrator to furnish receipt statement for the goods. Things were allowed to drift on and the V.P.P. returned to us as the District Agricultural Officer would not honour it inspite of his knowledge of the contents and his own instructions regarding the forwarding charges. We had therefore to write back to the District Agricultural Officer on 18.8.1949 and on receipt of instructions dated 22.8.1949 we could forward the documents to the Agricultural Demonstrator, Pattikonda on 26.8.1949, with an advice to the District Agricultural Officer on 27.8.1949. Clearance was effected on 30.8.1949 by the Agricultural Demonstrator.

Please note that in the first instance the permit of 20.6.1949 was furnished without signature on 4.7.1949 and was then properly resubmitted on 16.7.1949 only. We on our part had done everything in accordance with trade practice and without any delay. However the District Agricultural Officer took it into his head to dishonour the V.P.P after several days and rendered the delivery of goods quite delayed and badly circuitous.

It is ultimately reported that goods had undergone demurrage and shortage as well. A claim is preferred in the stockholder for Rs. 217--1--2 being cost of demurrage and shortage. The Joint Director of Agriculture to whom the matter was referred to has communicated to us his proceedings as per copy attached. We have protested against the decision of the Director of Agriculture and copy of our letter is also attached herewith for favour of your perusal. We fully hope you will give us your just and fair intervention in thematter. We do feel that all relevent particulars have not been fully gone through by the Joint Director of Agriculture in this instance.

MMR

The Copy of the reply of the correspondent is enclosed for ref. Copies of important letters have also been enclosed for ref.

Yours faithfully,
For MUDUGAL BHIMASENAPPA AND BROTHERS.

M. Venkoba Setty

20/2

C.C. to:M/S.South India Iron &
Hardware Merchants' Assoc.
M a d r a s l.